

To the redistricting committee,

The currently proposed maps shed light on the mental and emotional condition of the Illinois majority party; one of fear and childishness. You have drawn maps that shamelessly pander to a fear-filled desire for forced control, and fail to acknowledge the democratic right of the people to be represented fairly, honestly, and with transparency. While I understand that your fear for the mid-term elections and current possession of power encourages your desire to gerrymander "just like the other party would do," it is not an act of good faith or it is an act of good decision making.

Illinois lost enough population, for the first time in many years, to lose a congressional seat. Does this not strike you as a hint toward the general temperament of your constituency? We do not like what you are doing, Democrat, Republican, or Independent. We see your taxes, your failed education, your party politics, and we are rejecting in. This effort to re-draw districts into shamefully gerrymandered impressionistic art pieces is not the act of an honorable body, and it carries with it the same attitude that you approach the rest of your politics: fear and complacency. You are afraid to lose power, but you are complacent with the power you have to improve the lives of the people. Power in itself is nothing to be proud of, but power wielded powerfully and for the good of the people is.

Please consider this in your efforts to redistrict, please consider that the country is watching, and this decision will not drive an economically growing Illinois, it will drive people away and further enforce the echo chamber and erode the public trust in your body.

Sincerely,  
Edward Hartmann  
Schaumburg, IL

--

**Edward Hartmann**